

BOROUGH OF TIPTON



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(W. AULAY McLENNAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)

INCLUDING THAT OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

(G. H. ACTON, M.S.I.A.)

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER,
1949

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(at 31st December, 1949)

Chairman : Councillor G. A. T. HEDGE

Vice-Chairman : Alderman MRS. H. G. COX

The Mayor (Alderman E. Hampton), Aldermen A. Jones,
W. A. Whitehouse, Councillors C. A. Clark, W. E. Drew,
Mrs. O. Gutteridge, A. V. Mills, A. E. Newey, J. E. Salter,
W. Stott and J. W. Walters

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

W. AULAY McLENNAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

* G. H. ACTON, M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspectors :

* W. J. HEMMINGS

* E. K. PHIPPS

Clerks :

MRS. J. TRANTER

MRS. J. SLIM

MISS J. HAYES

* Qualified Meat Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,
SEDGLEY ROAD WEST,
TIPTON.

August 1950.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1949.

The report is necessarily shorter than in previous years, since 1949 is the first complete year since the coming into force of the National Health Service Act, 1946, under which Act several services passed under the control of the Staffordshire County Council.

There is nothing very outstanding in the vital statistics of the year. The continued high infant mortality rate is to be deplored, viz., 43.36 per 1000 live births compared with the figure of 32 for the country as a whole. However, the rate is an improvement on the years 1947 and 1948, which had figures of 53.18 and 54.59 respectively.

The birth rate remains above that for England and Wales (see Table 4).

The incidence of diphtheria remains low (8 cases) and all these were children who had not completed a course of immunisation. There were no deaths from diphtheria, but one child died from measles and two from whooping cough.

The rehousing of lodger families and families in unfit houses still remains a major health problem. The building of just over 200 houses per year does not in any way satisfy the need for new houses. It has also to be remembered that much of the old property, condemned as unfit, is rapidly deteriorating, and coming to the stage when any attempts at repair inevitably produce further disrepair.

Action to secure demolition has been taken under Section 11 of the Housing Act in connection with 40 houses which were structurally unsafe, but this does not pretend to deal with the problem, which involves 1,200 houses. Complete replanning and development of several areas in the Borough is called for.

I am grateful to the Chairmen and Members of the various Committees for their unfailing interest and sympathetic consideration, and to the staff of the department for their ungrudging help at all times.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

W. A. McLENNAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I. — STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	2,167
Population (1931 census)	35,814
Population 1949 (Registrar General's estimate) ...	38,910
Population (actual mid-1949)	38,823
No. of inhabited houses, 31st December, 1949 ...	10,222
No. of separate families	11,450
Rateable Value (31st March, 1949)	£143,086
Sum represented by a penny rate (31st March, 1949)	£561

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Live Births.	Male.	Female.	Total
Legitimate	359	376	735
Illegitimate	18	8	26
	<u>377</u>	<u>384</u>	<u>761</u>

The Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population for 1949 is 19.56. The rate for 1948 was 20.87 and the provisional rate for England and Wales for 1949 is 16.7. The following table gives the birth rates since 1941.

Live Births (Table 1)

Year	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Legitimate	684	746	796	798	722	790	839	786	735
Illegitimate	13	10	23	27	23	18	26	20	26
Birth Rate per 1000 est. res. popn.	19.64	21.22	23.00	22.88	20.72	21.57	22.65	20.87	19.56

Stillbirths.	Male.	Female.	Total
	8	8	16

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths 20.59

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 estimated population for 1949 is 0.41, the provisional figure for England and Wales being 0.39.

Stillbirths (Table 2)

Year	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Stillbirth rate per 1000 live & stillbirths	19.83	21.97	23.97	17.86	26.14	30.01	22.59	24.21	20.59

Deaths.	Male.	Female.	Total
	196	186	382

The crude death rate per 1,000 estimated population is therefore 9.82. This year the Registrar General has issued a comparability factor so that comparison with England and Wales as a whole and with other areas can be made. In the case of Tipton the comparability factor is 1.31, since Tipton is an industrial area and has a larger proportion of people of middle age, the time of life when death rates are lowest. The crude death rate of 9.82 adjusted by this factor to give comparability with other areas is termed the standardised death rate, which is therefore 12.86 per 1,000 estimated population.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	1
Other maternal causes	...	...	1

Deaths of Infants under one year.	Male.	Female.	Total
	15	18	33

This gives an Infant Mortality Rate of 43.36 per 1,000 live births and a rate of 42.47 per 1,000 live and stillbirths.

Of the infant deaths 13 at least could be ascribed to congenital causes such as premature birth, congenital weakness and congenital malformations. Sixteen deaths of infants occurred during the first month of life. This gives a neo-natal death rate of 21.0 per 1,000 live births. That is to say practically half the number of deaths of infants under one year of age died in the first month of life.

The following table shows an analysis of infant deaths.

(Table 3)

Cause of Death	From birth to 1 month (neo-natal)		From 1 to 12 months		Total Infant Deaths
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1. Gastro-intestinal infective disease (enteritis, diarrhoea, etc.)	—	—	2	3	5
2. Specific infectious disease	—	—	—	2	2
3. Other infective conditions (broncho-pneumonia, bronchitis, etc.)	—	—	3	2	5
4. Non-infective conditions	2	—	1	1	4
5. Congenital malformations	—	1	—	2	3
6. Obstetrical injuries	1	1	—	—	2
7. Serious accidents	1	—	1	—	2
8. Unknown causes:—					
(a) Prematurity	4	5	—	—	9
(b) Other conditions	—	1	—	—	1
	8	8	7	10	33
TOTAL	<hr/> 16		<hr/> 17		

**Comparative Birth and Death Rates, 1949, per 1,000
civilian population. (Table 4)**

	Live Birth Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Death Rate
England and Wales	16.7	.39	11.7
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	18.7	.47	12.5
148 Smaller Towns (25,000 to 50,000 population at 1931 census) ...	18.0	.40	11.6
London Administrative County ...	18.5	.37	12.2
TIPTON	19.56	.41	9.82 Standardised 12.86

**Comparative Infant Mortality Rates, 1949,
per 1,000 live births. (Table 5)**

	Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1000 live births.
England and Wales	32
126 County Borough and Great Towns (including London)	37
148 Smaller Towns (25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 census)	30
London Administrative County ...	29
TIPTON	43

The following table gives the causes of death during 1949.

Detailed Causes of Death (Registrar General's figures) (Table 6)

Disease							M.	F.	Total
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	15	8	23
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
8.	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
10.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
12.	Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M)	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
	Cancer of Uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	8	3	11
15.	Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	8	8
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	...	23	14	37
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
18.	Intracranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	...	...	13	18	31
19.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	42	49	91
20.	Other diseases of the Circulatory System	...	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	27	7	34
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	9	7	16
23.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
24.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	5	—	5
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
29.	Puerperal and post abortive sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
31.	Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	7
32.	Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	10
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	10
36.	All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	15	28	43
TOTAL (all causes)							196	186	382

The following table gives the eight chief causes of death in their order.

(Table 7)

Cause of death	M.	F.	Total	% of total deaths in 1949	% of total deaths in 1948
Heart disease	42	49	91	23.82	17.23
Cancer	32	28	60	15.71	15.21
Bronchitis	27	7	34	8.90	9.42
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc. ...	13	18	31	8.12	9.42
Tuberculosis	16	9	25	6.54	8.21
Congenital malformations, etc., prematurity	7	10	17	4.45	7.00
Pneumonia	9	7	16	4.19	2.00
Violence other than suicide ...	7	5	12	3.14	3.62

The percentage of deaths attributed to Heart Diseases has risen from 17.23 per cent in 1948. Deaths from Cancer have shown a slight increase in the percentage of total deaths from 15.21 to 15.71 per cent. The tolls taken by Bronchitis, Cerebral Haemorrhage and Thrombosis show a slight decline on last year, and the percentage of deaths from Tuberculosis is also less.

The following table shows comparative figures from the year 1941.

(Table 8)

Year	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
No. of deaths	458	430	409	388	394	379	414	401	382
Death Rate per 1000 est. res. popn.	12.91	12.07	11.48	10.45	10.96	10.12	10.84	10.39	9.82 Stan. D'th Rate 12.86
Maternal deaths	2	3	4	2	2	—	1	—	2
Maternal death rate	2.80	3.97	4.93	2.42	2.68	—	1.13	—	2.57
Infant deaths (under 1 year)	53	57	47	44	43	32	46	44	33
Infantile Mortality Rate	75.57	74.15	62.27	55.76	57.72	39.22	53.18	54.59	43.36

SECTION II. — PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following tables give particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases and the number of deaths certified as due to these.

Incidence of Infectious Disease (Table 9)

Disease	Number of cases							
	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Scarlet Fever	105	143	284	131	55	54	74	42
Diphtheria	100	132	78	54	19	8	6	8
Measles	425	239	47	481	23	554	319	362
Whooping Cough ...	198	90	154	61	84	86	49	46
Pneumonia	133	111	74	42	70	30	24	24
Erysipelas	25	11	13	9	7	5	8	3
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	5	2	6	1	4	2	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	2	—	5	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	7	1	4	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	3	2	—	3	1	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Deaths from Infectious Diseases (Table 10)

Disease	No. of Deaths (Registrar General's figures)							
	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Diphtheria	4	11	3	2	—	—	—	—
Measles	2	—	—	2	—	3	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	5	2	2	1	1	3	—	2
Pneumonia	27	29	23	20	13	14	8	16
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	1	—	3	1	2	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Acute Inf. Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

Analysis of Infectious Disease according to Age Groups (Table 11)

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough
Under 1 year	—	—	16	4
1 — 3	9	1	99	17
3 — 5	9	2	121	12
5 — 10	19	3	121	13
10 — 15	4	1	3	—
15 — 25	—	1	—	—
25 and over	1	—	2	—
TOTALS	42	8	362	46

Age Groups	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	C.S. Meningitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum
0 — 1 year	2	—	—	—
1 — 5	2	—	—	—
5 — 15	4	—	—	—
15 — 45	5	1	—	—
45 — 65	9	2	—	—
65 and over	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	24	3	—	—

No unusual incidence of any infectious disease has occurred during 1949. The number of cases of diphtheria showed a slight increase from 6 in 1948 to 8 in 1949, and the continued low figure is due in large measure to the immunisation measures instituted by this Council, but now passed, by the National Health Service Act of 1946, to the control of the Staffordshire County Council.

In none of the cases of diphtheria had the child completed a course of immunisation.

The incidence of pneumonia continued low, viz., 24 cases, the same number as in 1948, but twice the number of cases proved fatal, and 16 out of the 24 cases died. This doubled fatality rate from pneumonia seemed to show itself predominantly in the age group 45 to 65 years, the age group which showed no deaths from pneumonia in 1948.

No case of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) was notified.

The number of notifications of measles was somewhat greater than in 1948.

Notifications of whooping cough showed a slight decrease to 46 in the year. Two children died from whooping cough.

Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis still remains a major problem, although it affords some satisfaction to see a drop in the number of new cases from 73 in 1948 to 53 in 1949.

The revision of the house allocation ("points") scheme, has ensured necessary priority being given to some of these cases, but not all attain the required points. I have thought it expedient to bring several cases to the notice of the House Letting and Management Committee as cases meriting special consideration, and that Committee has been very sympathetic in its view and at the same time mindful of the risks which are run where overcrowding also exists in the household of a tuberculous patient.

It is noteworthy that tuberculous patients and their families have been rehoused in 13 instances, and in these a separate bedroom has been provided for the patient. In some cases, rehousing of a lodger family is the better solution, and this has been done in 3 instances during the year.

The following tables give details and comparative figures.

Tuberculosis (Table 12).

Notifications of Tuberculosis during the last ten years.

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Totals
1940	33	4	37
1941	52	7	59
1942	59	7	66
1943	57	12	69
1944	55	4	59
1945	65	8	73
1946	54	17	71
1947	66	8	74
1948	61	12	73
1949	43	10	53

Analysis of Notifications according to Age Groups (Table 13)

New Cases						Removals from Register on account of Death, Revised Diagnosis, Recovery, Transfers (position at 31.12.49)				
Age Groups	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
0 — 1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1
1 — 5	1	—	3	—	4	—	—	1	1	2
5 — 15	—	2	—	2	4	1	1	1	—	3
15 — 25	7	5	2	2	16	1	4	1	—	6
25 — 35	6	4	—	—	10	4	3	—	1	8
35 — 45	3	3	—	—	6	5	7	—	—	12
45 — 55	9	1	—	—	10	5	1	—	—	6
55 — 65	1	1	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	4
Over 65	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
TOTALS	27	16	5	5	53	22	16	3	3	44

The total number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at 31st December, 1949, was 446 pulmonary and 169 non-pulmonary.

SECTION III. — GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Local Health Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are now administered by the Staffordshire County Council, and are not matters for inclusion in this report.

However, a listing of these services may afford help to members of the Council, and to the Public when it is desired to make use of them, or to recommend their use to others.

Prenatal Clinic.

Central Clinic, Horseley Road, Tipton—
Friday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Child Welfare Centres.

Central Clinic, Horseley Road, Tipton.
Monday, 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Ocker Hill Wesleyan Chapel, 90, Ocker Hill Road, Tipton.
Tuesday, 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Tividale Street Methodist Church, Burnt Tree, Tipton.
Wednesday, 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Canal Street Methodist Church, Tipton Green, Tipton.
Thursday, 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Domestic Help Service.

A staff of Domestic Helps is now available for attendance at homes within the Borough, in cases of illness or confinement.

Applications for this service should be made to the Area Health Office, Municipal Buildings, Tipton.

Midwifery Service.

The following midwives are now practising in the Borough:—

Nurse M. J. Templeton, 8, Tame Road, Tipton.

Nurse W. Hunter, 8, Tame Road, Tipton.

Nurse M. M. Grepe, 276, Tividale Road, Tipton.

Nurse Turner, 68, Arthur Road, Tipton.

Nurse Reeves, 68, Arthur Road, Tipton.

Nurse Rayman, 5, Stella Road, Tipton.

Health Visiting.

This service is carried out both for Maternity and Child Welfare and School Health, by three full-time and two part-time Health Visitors, who can be consulted any day at Central Clinic, Horseley Road, Tipton, or at the branch Child Welfare Centres in the Borough.

Home Nursing.

The Home Nursing in the Borough has been undertaken throughout the year by Nurses Cockerill and Wardley. Instructions for visits and nursing of patients were given by the general practitioners and the Area Medical Officer.

Vaccination.

Vaccination was carried out on request by all general practitioners in the Borough.

Immunisation.

In addition to the facilities available at all Child Welfare Centres and schools, immunisation was also undertaken during the year by all general practitioners.

Ambulance Service.

The Ambulance Station covering the Borough Area is now at Green Street, Coseley (Telephone No. Sedgley 3048).

Day Nursery.

The Toll End Road Nursery continued to operate during the year, and an average of 50 places each week were made available for children whose mothers were doing work in industry.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report for the year 1949.

During the year increased attention was given to the inspection of food preparing premises. Much progress has been made in the provision of adequate washing facilities to food premises, including provision of sinks, and running hot and cold water supplies thereto, and a steady improvement has been noticed in respect of the standard of cleanliness.

It is gratifying to note that the Local Authority is adopting the Model Byelaws issued by the Ministry of Food, for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food.

Also it is hoped very shortly to commence a series of talks along with film displays to all food handlers, on the need of a higher hygienic standard. There is no doubt that advantage will be taken of this campaign by the people concerned, as a large number of personnel engaged in preparation and handling of food are fully appreciative of the need for cleaner conditions.

The work of meat inspection increased considerably during the year, due to the commencement of pig killing at a large sausage factory and the greater number of animals killed at the centralised abattoir. During the year, 58,608 animals were inspected as against 45,701 in 1948.

There is still a great housing need in the Borough and the number of sub-tenants and families living in overcrowded conditions remains very high. The condition of the old worn-out and insanitary dwellings in the Borough is still one of concern and it was necessary during the year to take demolition action under the Housing Act, on 40 dwellings, owing to their unsafe structural condition.

The results of milk samples taken for analysis were again very satisfactory, and much progress has been made in improving dairy plant. In one instance, at the instigation of this department, the installation of a laboratory for the examination of samples of milk was achieved.

Comments on other branches of work carried out are given in later pages.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their confidence, the Medical Officer of Health for his encouragement and support, and the whole of the staff for their able and active co-operation.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. H. ACTON, M.S.I.A.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION IV.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

The number of visits and inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors totalled 5,186 and is summarised below.

In addition 634 preliminary notices and 125 statutory notices were served under the Public Health Act.

Summary of Visits, Inspections, etc., made.

Houses inspected under the Public Health & Housing Acts	471
Re-inspections in respect of notices served	1511
No. of nuisances discovered in course of district inspection	226
Visits to Centralised Government Slaughterhouse	
and private slaughter	827
Visits under the Factory Act	52
Visits re overcrowding, rehousing, demolitions, etc. ...	484
Visits to tents, vans, sheds, etc.	4
Visits to markets	37
Visits to cowsheds, dairies, milkshops	145
Visits re Petroleum Regulations	116
Visits re defective and obstructed drains	284
Visits to vermin infested and dirty houses	72
Visits re infectious and contagious diseases	116
Visits under the Shops Act	32
Visits to Shops, Canteens, etc., re unsound food ...	144
Visits under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act	111
Visits to Food Premises under the Food & Drugs Act, etc.	103
Visits to cinemas and schools	11
Visits to canal boats	12
Visits to stables	4
Visits re smoke abatement	19
Miscellaneous visits	405
	<hr/>
Total ...	5186
	<hr/>

Infectious Diseases

No. of visits made by the Sanitary Inspectors	116
No. of disinfections carried out	91

Disinfestation, etc.

111 Council and privately owned dwelling houses infested with vermin were fumigated (Cimex fumigators, Gammexane Generators) and treated with liquid insecticides having a D.D.T. base. In certain cases D.D.T. powder and Gammexane were used. The household effects of 89 families from private houses were fumigated and removed by the Local Authority into Council houses.

In addition the household effects of 45 families were removed into Council houses at a moderate charge.

Smoke Abatement and Atmospheric Pollution.

Several nuisances caused by smoke, grit and waste steam were the subject of complaints during the year.

It was found in some cases that the emission was caused by the carelessness of the stokers and in a few instances by the unsuitable fuel used. In the cases where unsuitable fuel was used, contact was made with the Ministry of Fuel and a more suitable grade of coal obtained. Assistance was also obtained from the Ministry of Fuel in demonstrating to stokers the proper method of firing boilers to eliminate the emission of smoke in such quantities so as to be a nuisance.

At 3 factories mechanical stokers were installed.

The nuisance from the cooling towers at the Ocker Hill Generating Station was again extremely bad, and after much pressure by the Local Authority on the Government departments concerned, it is hoped that the work of remedying same will be commenced in the very near future.

The Local Authority, in order to discover the extent of atmospheric pollution in the Borough, agreed to the installing of the necessary equipment for the systematic measurement of same. Arrangements, in conjunction with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, are being made to instal four deposit gauges and seven lead peroxide appliances in different parts of the Borough.

Canal Boats

6 canal boats were inspected and notices in respect of infringements of the Regulations in two instances were served on the Owners. These infringements have been remedied.

Offensive Trades

There are 3 premises where offensive trades are carried out. These were regularly inspected and found satisfactory.

Shops Act, 1934

32 shops were inspected during the year, and no outstanding irregularities were discovered.

Complaints

The number of complaints registered during the year was 641 as against 653 in 1948.

Statement of Removal of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances in and around Dwellings, etc.

During the year under review 634 preliminary and 124 statutory notices were served for the abatement of nuisances and the remedy of sanitary defects in and around dwellings and the following table shows the nature of the work actually carried out.

Nature of work done.	No.
Houses.	
Roofs repaired	192
Eavesguttering & rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	63
Chimney stacks repaired	32
External walls rebuilt, repaired or cement rendered ...	36
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	152
Bedrooms and living rooms renovated	4
Dirty houses cleansed	2
Floors repaired or renewed	59
Fixed windows made to open	3
Windows and frames repaired or renewed	56
Windows provided with new sash-cords	81
Doors repaired or renewed	34
General house fittings repaired or renewed (boilers, fire ranges, etc.)	25
Staircases repaired or renewed	10
Separate water supply provided	11
Additional washhouses provided	3
Washing facilities provided	3
Glazed sinks provided in lieu of brick and quarry sills	10
Sinks renewed	4
Sink waste pipes renewed	15
Washhouses rebuilt or repaired	81
Water supply laid on to washhouses	10
Chimney flues repaired	6
Washhouse coppers, firegrates, etc., renewed ...	17
Water supply pipes repaired or renewed	18
Covers to cellar areas renewed	4
Water service pipes repaired	3
Verandahs repaired	3
Drainage.	
Drains opened or cleansed	253
Main drains repaired or reconstructed	2
W.C. branch drains repaired or reconstructed ...	9
Waste and surface water drains repaired or reconstructed	4
Additional inspection chambers installed	4
Inspection chambers repaired	5
New covers to inspection chambers	20
Ventilation pipes renewed or repaired	1
Additional gullies to drains provided	4
New intercepting and gully traps fitted	2
Yards, Passages, etc.	
Yard and passage surfaces repaired	5
Boundary walls repaired	9
Passage surfaces repaired	2

Closets.

Additional water closets provided	...	...	...	4
W.C. buildings repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	70
New W.C. pedestal pans fitted	...	...	...	28
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	32
Flush pipes, water supply pipes, etc., repaired or renewed	...	...	...	52
Seats to W.C. pans renewed	...	...	...	12
Midden privies and pail closets abolished	...	...	...	2
Waste water closets converted to fresh water closets				4

Accumulations.

Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	7
Stagnant water removed	...	...	...	6

General.

Stables limewashed and cleansed	...	...	...	1
Keeping of animals so as to be a nuisance discontinued				3
Housing of caravans so as to be a nuisance discontinued				1
Burning of trade refuse discontinued	...	...	...	2

Results of Legal Proceedings.

Situation of premises	Nature of complaint	Acts under which proceedings were instituted.	Results
187 & 188, Dudley Port.	Dilapidated house.	Public Health Act, 1936. Section 94.	Summons withdrawn on completion of work. Costs 4/6.
7 & 10, New Street, off Waterloo St.	" "	" "	" "
9, Lindley Ave.	" "	" "	" "
—	Storage of Petrol on unauthorised premises.	Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928	Fined £5.
—	Sale of bread unfit for human consumption.	Food & Drugs 1938 Section 9.	Fined £5.
—	Sale of Syphon of Soda Water unfit for human consumption.	" "	Dismissed.

Water Supply

In accordance with Ministry of Health circular 3/49, the following report is submitted on the water supply in Tipton.

The public water supply is derived from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

The water received is satisfactory in quality and quantity and is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

Bacteriological examination and chemical analysis of 48 samples of water were made and found to be satisfactory.

The particulars of the proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of population supplied from the public water mains is as follows:—

		Proportion of houses.	Proportion of population.
(a)	Direct to houses	90.5	87%
(b)	By means of stand pipes 3.0% } Laid on to washhouses 6.5% }	9.5	13%

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and the Infestation Order, 1943.

The following premises were dealt with during the year. The poisons used are those recommended by the Ministry of Food.

1. Surface Treatment.	No. of premises visited.	No. of treatments.	Total Visits.
(a) Factories, Shops, etc. ...	33	41	170
(b) Dwelling houses ...	37	42	164
Total ...	70	83	334

2. Sewer Treatment.

Two maintenance treatments for the destruction of rats were carried out and the following results obtained:—

Total manholes baited	1001
Manholes with complete takes on two days pre-baiting	48
Manholes with positive pre-bait takes	87
Manholes with no pre-bait takes	866

The number of pre-bait takes is again less than last year and now show that the rat population in the sewers has been considerably reduced.

Factories Act, 1937

The number of factories on the register at the end of the year was 170.

The number of factories inspected was 27 and the number of visits 52.

Sanitary defects were found at 20 factories and these were all remedied.

Complaints referred to the Local Authority by H.M. Inspector of Factories numbered 8.

Outworkers

Names and addresses of 505 outworkers engaged at factories in the Borough were notified to this Department; of this number, 249 were situated outside the Borough.

No irregularities were discovered.

SECTION V. — INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

During the year 708 visits were paid to the Ministry of Food Centralised Slaughterhouse and a Sausage Factory, also 110 visits were made in connection with the private slaughter of pigs, by the Sanitary Inspectors, who are all qualified Meat Inspectors. The number of animals inspected was 58,608 as against 45,701 in 1948, made up as follows:—

Beasts	...	...	...	...	...	...	8195
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	...	6055
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	...	...	...	29690
Pigs (including 131 pigs at private premises)							14668
							<hr/> 58608 <hr/>

In addition 144 visits were paid to Food Shops, Canteens and other premises for the inspection of unsound food.

The total amount of meat and other foodstuffs condemned as being unfit for human consumption was as follows:—

Description of Food	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Butcher's meat from Centralised Slaughterhouse, etc.	121	2	0	26
Poultry, etc.	1	6	2	7
Cheese	—	1	3	14
Bacon, etc.	—	1	0	5
Fish, including shellfish	—	2	2	10
Rabbits	—	—	2	4
Miscellaneous	—	—	1	7
CANNED & BOTTLED GOODS.				
Canned Meat	—	3	0	12
Canned Fish	—	1	0	11
Canned Milk	—	1	2	2
Canned or Bottled Vegetables and Fruit	—	1	3	8
Canned or Bottled Jams	—	—	2	3
Miscellaneous	—	—	2	22
TOTAL	123	3	3	19

The following table shows the total carcasses inspected and the number condemned and the carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned at the Government Centralised Slaughterhouse and Messrs. Palethorpes Limited.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED					
(Return as required by the Ministry of Health.)					
	Cattle excl. Cows 5072	Cows 3123	Calves 6055	Sheep and Lambs 29690	Pigs 14668 incl. 131 killed at private premises (6174)
Number killed	(5442)	(3220)	(6470)	(24395)	(6174)
Number inspected	5072 (5442)	3123 (3220)	6055 (6470)	26960 (24395)	14668 (6174)
All diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned...	4 (4)	60 (43)	90 (78)	65 (43)	28 (21)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	753 (1176)	1104 (1108)	20 (29)	1906 (1866)	528 (160)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis.	14.93 (21.68)	37.27 (32.75)	1.82 (1.65)	6.60 (7.91)	3.79 (2.93)
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcasses condemned.	13 (19)	78 (79)	16 (17)	— (—)	11 (5)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	557 (689)	1259 (1215)	2 (—)	— (—)	1084 (455)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	11.24 (13.01)	42.49 (41.12)	0.30 (0.26)	— (—)	7.47 (7.29)

(Government Centralised Slaughterhouse catering for the Boroughs of Oldbury, Rowley Regis, Tipton and West Bromwich.)
Figures in brackets are for the year 1948.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

48 applications for the renewal of existing licences to slaughter or stun animals under the above Act were granted. Four new licences were also granted.

Tuberculosis Order, 1938

3 cows were sent into the Centralised Slaughterhouse by Veterinary Officers under the above Order; of these one was affected with generalised tuberculosis and the remaining two with localised tuberculosis.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

During the year 103 visits were paid to food premises and particular attention was directed to bringing the premises where food is prepared and handled up to a better hygienic standard.

In this connection the following work was carried out:—

Shops provided with a constant hot water supply	...	...	17
Shops and preparation rooms repaired and renovated	...	...	11
Shops provided with additional sanitary accommodation and washing facilities	...	...	4

Arrangements are being put in hand in respect of the “Clean Food Campaign” for talks to personnel engaged in the handling of food, and the display of appropriate films.

Ice Cream.

11 applications were received and approved for registration of premises under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, for the “Sale Only” of Ice Cream. One application was refused.

The following is a classification of the premises now in use:—

(a) Premises registered for manufacture, sale and storage	3
(b) Premises registered for the sale of a “Cold Mix”	11
(c) Premises registered for the “Sale Only”	65

In respect of the 65 premises registered for “Sale Only,” 61 provide wrapped Ice Cream, and the remaining 4 loose Ice Cream.

32 samples of Ice Cream manufactured in and outside the Borough were taken for bacteriological examination; of these, 26 were satisfactory and 6 unsatisfactory in respect of hygienic condition.

It is interesting to note that the average fat content of these samples was 7.4%. Also it is gratifying to report that the standard of Ice Cream now sold shows an upward trend, both as to cleanliness and quality.

The County Medical Officer of Health has supplied the following information regarding samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Milk : 50 samples—all genuine.

General Foods : 26 samples—all genuine, as follows:—

Processed Peas.	Sheffield Sausages.
Stone Milled Cloves.	Beef Sausage.
Semolina.	Sweetened Fat.
Honey (imported).	Cream Fairy Cakes.
Golden Syrup.	Pineapple Crush.
Banana Flavouring.	Rum Flavouring.
Apricot Jam.	Jelly Cream.
Fish Paste.	Golden Spread.
Arrowroot.	Butter.
Cocoa.	Lard.
Pork Sausage.	Coffee.
Pork Sausage.	Marmalade Pudding.
Beef Sausage.	Flour.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936/1946.

The following licences under the above Regulations were issued:—

			Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	Pasteurised	Tuberculin Tested
Bottlers	...	...	2	—	—
Pasteurisers	...	...	—	2	—
Retailers	...	...	5	14	3

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

41 samples of milk were obtained during the year for bacteriological examination, and the results of same are shown in the following table.

Grade of Milk	No. of samples	Tests Applied	Results	
			Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
1. Pasteurised	17	Methylene Blue Phosphatase	15 16	2 1
2. Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	12	Methylene Blue Phosphatase	11 12	1 —
3. Heat Treated	1	Methylene Blue Phosphatase	1 —	— 1
4. Sterilised	9	Methylene Blue Phosphatase Turbidity	9 9 9	— — —
5. Raw	2	Methylene Blue T.B. bacilli content	1 Neg.	1 —

Summary of Percentages.

Milk examined for efficiency of Heat Treatment
(Phosphatase Test) ... 97% satisfactory

Milk examined for its keeping qualities
(Methylene Blue Test) ... 92% satisfactory

SECTION VI. — HOUSING (Joint Report)

The number of new houses erected in the Borough during 1949 is as follows:—

No. of Corporation houses completed	...	200	} 207
No. of houses privately built	...	7	

The number of new houses completed in 1948 was 208, composed of 198 by the Corporation and 10 privately. The need for houses is still acute.

Individual Unfit Houses

The following 40 houses were represented under the Housing Act, 1936, as being unfit for human habitation on account of their dilapidated and unsafe structural condition, and Demolition Orders were made by the Council in each case.

13, Bk. 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18, Chaters Passage.

23, 24, 25, 26 and 27, The Coppice.

56, 57, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63 and 64, Ballfields.

7 House, 10 Court, New Road.

58, 150, 157, 158 and 159, Bloomfield Road.

8 House, Court 1, Bloomfield Road.

33, Chapel Street.

1, 2 and 3, Court 2, Chapel Street.

49, Queens Road.

54 and 55, High Street, Princes End.

9, Newhall Street.

62, Burnt Tree.

67 and 68, Waterloo Street.

17 and 21, Bradley Street.

During the year 26 houses previously condemned under the Housing Act were demolished.

The following table shows the total number of houses dealt with under the Housing Act from 1932, the commencement of the scheme, to 31st December, 1949.

	Total No. of houses	Total number demolished	Total No. of persons displaced
91 Clearance Areas	1321	1309	6216
Individual unfit houses and caravans in respect of which Demolition Orders have been made.	560	494	2537
Parts of buildings in respect of which Closing Orders have been made.	13	1	69
Individual unfit houses in respect of which undertakings have been accepted.	4	—	21
Individual unfit houses and caravans demolished in anticipation of Demo- lition Orders.	5	5	23
TOTAL	1903	1809	8866

Licensed Dwelling Houses

There are still 10 houses licensed under the Defence Regulations. Arrangements have been made under the "Points" scheme for the families occupying them to be rehoused.

Overcrowding

During the year 174 families living in overcrowded conditions were rehoused into Council houses under the "Points" Scheme, leaving approximately 500 cases yet to be dealt with.

It will be noticed from the figures given in the following table that the average number of persons per house and room shows a continued decline from 1921.

Year	No. of houses in the Borough.	Average number of persons per house.	Average number of persons per room.
1921	7375	4.63	1.14
1931	7796	4.60	1.11
1946	9308	4.0	0.92
1947	9598	4.0	0.91
1948	9838	3.94	0.91
1949	10222	3.8	0.90

Rehousing

Statement showing the number of families rehoused into Council houses during 1949.

Lodgers rehoused from	No. of persons in families rehoused						Total No. of families rehoused	Total No. of persons rehoused	No. of cases of overcrowding	Percentage of overcrowding cases
	2 p.	3 p.	4 p.	5 p.	6 p.	7 p. or over				
(a) Council houses	4	27	20	21	5	1	78	313	78	100%
(b) Private houses	7	21	12	7	1	1	49	173	36	73.5%
TOTAL	11	48	32	28	6	2	127	486	114	89.8%

Tenants rehoused from	No. of persons in families rehoused						Total No. of families rehoused	Total No. of persons rehoused	No. of cases of over- crowding	Percentage of overcrowd- ing cases
	2 p.	3 p.	4 p.	5 p.	6 p.	7 p. or over				
(a) Private houses	2	6	14	14	11	13	60	316	43	71.7%
(b) Houses condemned under the Housing Act, 1936.	—	8	12	7	3	4	34	155	15	44.1%
(c) Requi- sitioned or licensed houses.	2	2	1	2	—	—	7	24	3	43.0%
TOTAL	4	16	27	23	14	17	101	495	61	60.4%

Summary

Total families rehoused	...	...	...	...	...	228
Total number of persons rehoused	...	...	...	...	...	981
Number of cases of overcrowding relieved	...	...	...	...	...	174
Percentage of overcrowding cases of families rehoused	...	...	...	...	...	76.3%

The following table gives a brief analysis of the condition of all houses in the Borough and is based on the survey made in 1948 amended by the figures of new houses, houses demolished, and houses which have passed into one category from another.

Houses in a satisfactory condition	...	...	7209
Houses requiring minor repairs	...	...	655
Houses requiring major repairs and structural alterations (this includes back-to-back houses convertible into one house)	...	...	1148
Houses which are unfit and require demolition	...	...	1210
			<u>10222</u>

